



# YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

ANNOUNCEMENT

U.S. EMBASSY

## **FY2015 YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR STUDENT LEADERS**

Host Institution : Northern Illinois University

April 2015

**Deadline for Applications: November 28, 2014**



### **1. Program Description**

Malaysian student leaders are invited to apply for participation in the 2015 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). Five student leaders and one adult educator from Malaysia will join similar groups from other countries in Southeast Asia in a three-week, U.S.-based exchange focused on leadership and youth development.

This year, the SEAYLP program will focus on the themes of civic education, leadership, tolerance and respect for diversity, and community engagement. The exchange will take place in April 2015 and participants will implement follow-on projects in their home communities after the exchange.

Exchange activities will include workshops, interactive sessions, simulations, leadership training, and team-building exercises. Extracurricular activities will round out the program with volunteer service opportunities as well as interactive site visits with relevant organizations in the host communities. Apart from acting as chaperone and mentor to the students, the adult participant will have special sessions with fellow peers designed to help them to foster leadership and civic education programs at home. Participants will have homestays with American families and a study tour to a different region of the country than the exchange's primary location. Additional details will be provided by the host institution once selection has been made.

### **2. Institute Objectives**

This is an intensive program consisting of three segments: (1) A pre-departure orientation; (2) a 3-week exchange program that will offer students the opportunity to explore the principles of leadership and community engagement in the United States; and (3) follow-on activities, where participants will conduct projects in their home communities.

Youth Leadership Programs are designed to advance mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries as well as to promote high-quality leadership,

civic responsibility, and community engagement among our countries' future leaders. The program will employ a highly interactive approach both in workshops and in a range of public and community settings. Through engagement with the activities of U.S. high schools, community organizations, youth groups, and community leaders in each location, the student will better understand civic participation and the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.

### **3. Funding**

The United States Government, in conjunction with the program's host institution, will pay for domestic transportation, international transportation to and from the United States, orientations, program fees and administration, site visits and seminars, lodging and most meals, some cultural activities, educational materials, accident and sickness coverage, and a modest amount of pocket money. Participants will stay with volunteer host families. Participants are responsible for expenses related to the application process (copying, mailing, photographs, etc.) and spending money for souvenirs, telephone calls, and other personal items in the United States.

### **4. Program Requirements and Restrictions**

Participants will travel to the United States on J-1 exchange visitor visas provided through this program. By accepting this visa, participants will be subject to a two-year home residency requirement, meaning they must return to and live in their home country for a total of two years before they would be eligible for an immigrant or temporary worker U.S. visa. This does not restrict other types of visas. For example, this would not prevent you from being able to apply for a student visa to attend a university.

### **5. Candidate Qualifications**

The program seeks energetic applicants who are ready to develop their skills in order to be effective leaders in their schools and communities.

Student applicants **MUST**

- be a Malaysian citizen; residing in either the states of **Negeri Sembilan or Melaka** only
- be 15 years old on April 2015
- be students in Form Three in 2015
- have strong English skills and be academically strong (This program will be conducted entirely in English)
- have demonstrated leadership in their schools and/or communities
- have commitment to civic action with strong social skills and interest in community service
- have permission from parents or legal guardians and schools (if missing any classes) to participate in the entire program

*Preference will be given to participants that have not previously traveled to the United States, especially on a U.S. government-sponsored program.*

## **6. To apply for the Institute**

Applicants should complete the application form at:

[http://usembassymalaysia.org.my/form/seaylp\\_student\\_form2014.dotx](http://usembassymalaysia.org.my/form/seaylp_student_form2014.dotx)

All applications MUST be submitted via e-mail: [klpaexchanges@state.gov](mailto:klpaexchanges@state.gov) with  
**Subject Title: FY2015 SEAYLP Application-Student Leader**, OR fax to: (03) 2148-9192.

The application deadline is **Friday, November 28, 2014**.

**Shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview at a centralized location that will be announced later.**

*Please note! Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.*

For more program details, all interested candidates are welcomed to contact  
Exchanges Team, Public Affairs, American Embassy, 376 Jalan Tun Razak, 50400  
Kuala Lumpur.

Tel: (03) 2168-5046 (Monday- Friday/9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.); Fax: (03) 2148-9192;  
e-mail: [klpaexchanges@state.gov](mailto:klpaexchanges@state.gov)

**Deadline for Applications: November 28, 2014**